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Background Limited data are available regarding the role of percutaneous cardiopulmonary support for the treatment of ST segment elevation myocardial infarction (STEMI) with profound cardiogenic shock (CS). This study aimed to identify the determinant factors for survival of patients with STEMI who underwent extracorporeal membrane oxygenation (ECMO) support. **Method** From January 2005 to December 2013, 192 patients experienced STEMI with CS needed intra-aortic balloon pumping and support with vasoactive agents at our hospital. Among them, 51 patients experienced profound CS and needed ECMO support. General demographics, timing of primary percutaneous intervention, infarcted territory, characteristics of coronary artery disease were compared between the ECMO survival and ECMO non-survival group. Univariate and multivariate Cox regression analyses were performed to identify the associations with 30-day mortality post-ECMO. **Results** The average age of the 51 patients with profound CS was 59.18 years, and 88.2% of the patients were men. 31 patients survived the 30-day follow-up period. In the multivariate Cox regression analysis, higher body mass index (BMI) level, longer door-to-balloon time, higher serum blood urea nitrogen (BUN) level, and lower 24-h lactic acid clearance were associated with 30-day mortality post-ECMO. Receiver operating characteristic curves revealed the cut-off points for the BMI greater than 24.30 and serum BUN greater than 17.50 mg/dL in the best sensitivities and specificities ($p = 0.004$ and $p = 0.031$; respectively). **Conclusions** Longer door-to-balloon time, higher BMI, higher serum BUN level, and poorer lactic acid clearance following ECMO setting for patients with STEMI and profound CS could predict 30-day clinical outcomes.